Appendix 1

Draft Canterbury Public Art policy

INTRODUCTION

Canterbury City Council actively encourages the provision of publicly accessible art, craft and design works - both permanent and temporary - in new building, townscape, landscape and village enhancement schemes.

PURPOSE

The Public Art Policy aims to clarify and explain the role and expectations of Canterbury City Council in the public art process. The purpose of the Canterbury City Council's Public Art Policy is to provide clear guidance to:

- developers regarding the inclusion of Public Art in new development
- parishes and community organisations wishing to incorporate public art into village enhancement projects
- artists wishing to work with residents and the above in the production of public art

DEFINITIONS

'Public Art' refers to any contribution by artists in a publicly accessible location and encompasses public art works that can take a huge range of forms – from established media and art forms such as sculpture, street furniture, lighting, paving, and glass, to works using sound, text, planting, colour, and interactive pieces controlled by public interaction via the internet.

Public art can be temporary or permanent, transformative or subtle. It can make a place special and different, or add another layer of richness to our surroundings. It can enhance and relate to the history, geography, archaeology or ecology of an area, or make an individual statement about a particular time or happening. It can include, but not exclusively:

- landscape design, tree planting and mazes
- painting, sculpture, ceramic, prints, mixed media and artist in residence schemes
- brickwork, terracotta and patterned tiling or slates
- doors, gates, engraved and stained glass
- lighting, metalwork, tapestries and carpets
- wood and stone letter carving, banners and original graphics
- seating, bollards, railings, clocks and boundary features.

'Artists' is used to describe all visual and media arts practitioners including painters, sculptors, printmakers, craftspeople, landscape architects, film and video makers, live artists and photographers engaged in public art.

'The Council' refers to all members and departments of Canterbury City Council.

“The District” refers to the geographic area of Canterbury District.

AIMS

The aim of The Council's" public art policy is:

- to promote artistic activity through the creation of new and original artwork
- to promote a high quality and well-designed environment, valued by those who live and work in or visit the District
- to promote participation and involvement in the arts and our environment.

OBJECTIVES

Local Plan

Public art is a key component to supporting the delivery of the following Local Plan policies:

- TV1 Cultural and arts facilities
- TCL4 Cultural enhancement area
- DBE8 Public open space

For further detail see the Local Plan.

General Objectives

Artistic

- To maintain standards of excellence in public arts.
- To encourage work by artists that is both original and appropriate to the setting.
- To make the District known as a place where art and culture are prominent and integral to the quality of life and the quality of the environment.

Economic

- To increase the employment opportunities for artists, small craft businesses and their fabricators.
- To improve the environment for the benefit of those who live and work in the District.
- To enhance the unique characteristics of the villages and localities within the District.

Environmental and Social

- To strengthen the identity and diversity of the Districts localities
- To promote the use of sustainable materials in commissioning
- To assist in the orientation and interpretation of places
- To ensure appropriate maintenance of public art and if required decommissioning.

Community Involvement

- To actively encourage public engagement in all public art schemes in the District
- To raise the awareness of public art through related education activities
- To celebrate both cultural diversity and local identity and place setting.

Operational

- To offer advice on the commissioning and decommissioning of public art works in the district
- To implement equal opportunities in the recruitment and selection of artists.
- To develop collaborations between developers, artists, planners, engineers, landscape architects, architects and others
- To engage in the public art process the staff and, where possible, users of commissioning organisations.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Council will implement its aims and objectives for public art (above) by providing:

(a) A public art officer steering group composed of officers from across the council - as required, together with other interested parties. This group will review and facilitate the progress and development of public art projects, oversee an audit of public art, oversee the management and maintenance of public art, and the decommissioning of public art where necessary. The Council is not responsible for the ongoing maintenance of all public art and will seek reassurance that maintenance arrangements for public art is in place. The Council only has maintenance obligations where it has been contractually agreed in advance.

(b) Guidance to developers (and contracted builders) implementing large-scale developments (Master Plans) as well as smaller developments through the Public Art steering group if requested. The involvement of an artist or artists at an early stage in the planning and design of developments is actively encouraged.

(c) Oversight of the Community Infrastructure Levy with regards to public art projects

(d) Advice and support for parish councils and local organisations wishing to engage visual artists in village enhancement schemes. Guidance is available from the officer steering group.

(e) Advice and support for local artists wishing to develop their skills in working with residents in the production of artworks of the highest quality. Guidance is available from the officer steering group.

(f) There is an acknowledged body of work on good practice in public art commissioning. A number of key principles should be followed in commissioning artists to work in the public realm:

- Involve artists as early as possible in the process
- The use of specialist advice where appropriate
- An open and inclusive selection process for appointment of artists
- A written brief to be agreed for all commissions
- Fees, budgets and timetables to be agreed in advance and included in briefs and contracts
- Appointment on mutually agreed contracts, to include details on the moral rights of the artist, attribution and acknowledgement, copyright and reproduction rights,

- Contracts in particular should include defects, maintenance regimes and decommissioning agreements
- Artists to be treated as professionals, with realistic rates of pay.